

**Governmental Affairs Committee
Rescheduled Regular Meeting
April 25, 2005 – 3:30 p.m.
Tribal Office Meeting Room B**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call-

Committee Chairperson Laurie Boivin called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. Those present: Stephanie Awonohopay, Kathy Kaquatosh, Bob Lansing, Jeremy Weso and Marci Hawpetoss. Ben Kaquatosh was absent.

2. Moment of Silence-A moment of silence was observed.

3. Review Minutes Dated March 30, 2005-

Motion made by Kathy Kaquatosh to approve the minutes dated March 30, 2005. Motion was seconded by Bob Lansing. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 4-for, 0-opposed, 1-abstention (Stephanie Awonohopay), 1-absent. Motion carried.

4. Discuss/Action on Posting Ordinance 80-6-

Chairperson Boivin informed the committee that the reason to discuss the issue is because community members feel that the meeting notices aren't posted in enough places and the community isn't aware of meetings that are taking place.

Committee discussed what can be changed in the ordinance. Right now the required posting areas are Keshena Post Office, Neopit Post Office, Tribal Offices, Tribal Courts, South Branch Community Center and Zoar Fire Station.

Committee members stated that the first change is to change Zoar Fire Station to Zoar Ceremonial Building. Committee members would like to take off Tribal Courts and replace it with Maehnowesekiyah because that way there is a posting in all communities.

In order to get the postings out to more people committee suggested that the postings be emailed to all Tribal Buildings to have them post on their bulletin boards and to post the meeting notices on the tribal website.

Jeremy will sit down with Rob Orcutt to develop a draft for the amendments.

5. Discuss/Action on Flag Use Policy-

Tribal Chairman Michael Chapman developed a Flag Use/Logo Policy and the committee reviewed it.

Committee members wanted to know if the tribal seal was registered and some committee members responded that it wasn't. Committee would like to know what the procedure would be to get the seal registered/trademarked.

Stephanie Awonohopay informed the committee that some group is using the seal on patches they have on their arms but have changed the wording on it.

Committee wants our official name clarified. On some things we are known as “Menominee Nation” and other things we are the “Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin.”

Bob Lansing informed the committee that years ago the logo was the peace pipe and committee wants to know if officially that is our logo.

Jeremy will clean the document up and report back at the next meeting.

6. Discuss/Action on Requests for Proposals/Judgment Fund Interest-

Committee discussed the judgment funds interest money and the guidelines are spelled out in the judgment funds document. Committee wants to know or define what departments can use the accumulated interest.

Committee will continue to work on the issue and Chairperson Boivin will contact Brian Kowalkowski to see if he has any suggestions on which direction to go with the issue.

7. Discuss/Action on Credit Card Policy-

Committee briefly discussed the credit card policy at the last meeting and committee members felt there is a need for the policy and for some employees to have access to a credit card since so many places do not accept purchase orders anymore.

Jeremy made some minor changes to the policy and committee members feel it is ready to send to the Menominee Tribal Legislature for approval.

Motion made by Stephanie Awonohopay to approve the Credit Card Policy with recommended changes and send to the Menominee Tribal Legislature for concurrence. Motion was seconded by Bob Lansing. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed, 1-absent. Motion carried.

8. Discuss/Action on Career Development Policy-

Committee went into a lengthy discussion on the issue. Committee members all agreed that the policy is too loose and it needs to be changed.

The reason the issue came up is because departments are using their budget money to pay for employees schooling.

Committee members stated that it should be ok for departments to pay for certain classes but when it comes to paying for someone to finish a degree something has to be changed because the tribe can't afford to do it for every body.

Stephanie Awonohopay was excused at 5:15 p.m.

Chairperson Boivin stated that the policy needs to be changed and the committee will discuss it further at the next meeting.

9. Other Business-

At the next meeting committee would like to discuss a wage deduction policy and decide if it should be a policy or incorporated into the accounting manual.

Committee would also like to discuss committee assignments and Ordinance 95-04 Tribal Government Plan.

10. Adjournment-

Motion made by Jeremy Weso to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Bob Lansing. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 4-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Legislative Staff Services